

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

April 17, 2007

Parents of children with disabilities and other unique circumstances have a genuine need to locate child care providers who have the skills and training to address their child's special needs. In 2005, the Legislature and the Governor enacted legislation to fund services to meet this increasing challenge, and created the Special Needs Assistance Program (SNAP) on a temporary basis.

The program has successfully provided training for over 10,000 parents of special needs children and child care providers across Los Angeles County, and has had a similar impact across the State. The program is due to sunset this year, and legislation is required to extend it. SB 680 (Ridley-Thomas) seeks to address this, by continuing to fund the SNAP program on a permanent basis.

Given our County's focus and interest in promoting high quality child care, I believe it is important to incorporate the unique needs of families with special needs children into this vision. The SNAP program provides an excellent service to this population and will continue to do so if made permanent.

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____

I, THEREFORE MOVE, that the Board of Supervisors support SB 680, instruct the Executive Officer to send a five-signature letter to the Governor, Assembly Speaker, Senate President Pro Tempore and the Los Angeles County legislative delegation expressing the Board's support on this Bill, and instruct the County's Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to pursue this position in support of SB 680.

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